

# A. F. U. BULLETIN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ALBERTA FARMERS' UNION

102 La Fleche Building, 102 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Phone 25965

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## War and Peace

What is this black distortion of the Aggressor mind  
That drives great hordes to die like fattened sheep  
That by Destructive force would rule mankind  
While helpless babes and hopeless women weep?  
  
Weep for their menfolk who will ne'er return,  
The mother for her son, the wife her mate,  
The sweetheart for the lover she must mourn,  
All these deserve a much more kindly fate.  
  
This mad wild beast of war must be destroyed  
Or humankind can never rest secure,  
Nor sleep in peace no matter how employed,  
Be they folk of wealth or of the poor.  
  
How different life would be in this old world  
If men would build; NOT seeking to destroy,  
The dawning of a new age it would unfold  
And all our strength and energy employ.  
  
Mere rubbish only should mankind discard  
Saving for useful purpose all the good  
Men and machinery we should employ  
Building good homes providing all with food.  
  
Taking away the drudgery from the toil  
Adding new zest to every task of life,  
Bringing new hope to those who till the soil,  
Freeing mankind from fear of want and strife.  
  
Lifting the burdens from the backs now bent  
Easing the suffering of those wracked with pain,  
Doing of kindness until life is spent,  
Then be it said, we did not live in vain.

J. S. Srigley.

## Farm Women's Corner

### "HALT!"

Peering through the darkness, the Home Guard sentry saw a shadowy figure approaching. His rifle to the READY, he shouted the challenge: "Halt! Who goes there?"

"Foe!" came the answer.

The sentry was perplexed.

"Now don't muck about," he said, and repeated the challenge. And got the same reply.

Now completely bewildered, he went inside and told the sergeant of the guard what had happened.

The Sergeant scratched his head reflectively. Then deciding that perhaps he had better deal with the matter himself, he went outside and repeated the challenge.

"HALT, who goes there?"

"FOE!" came the reply again.

The Sergeant grunted with disgust and then replied: "Well, buzz off, then—we're not properly organized yet!"

\* \* \* \*

How like the farmer—we are ready to shout the challenge, but not properly organized yet.

And I may say that we never will be unless each and every individual member takes unto himself the responsibility of getting more members. Especially the Farm-Youth and the women.

Surely there is not a farmer or farm-woman wishful of seeing the hungry thirties repeated again, yet we are headed that way unless we as a body, well organized, put our shoulder to the wheel and really push with all our might. We have taken an awful beating the past years, even though we did have our different farm organizations. We failed, not the organization, but you and I. Just to say that you belong to a Union, is not enough; you must do your bit.

There's no use the farmer or farm-woman saying that we women can do nothing in the matter, for this is not true. We most decidedly can. Was it not perhaps the biggest problem that British agriculture has had to meet during this war, that of labour? That it has been solved at all is due to the **Women's Land Army**; of course there was considerable assistance from voluntary and part-time helpers. Agricultural workers in Britain were "frozen" to their jobs since 1940.

The W. L. A. with a membership of 83,000 in July 1943 has done much to relieve the shortage.

In Canada we have no Women's Land Army, or have we, — for did not we married women enlist in the C. W. L. A. (without pay, or uniforms) when we married a farmer?

We too have in my estimation done a good

job without any recognition. It is just part of our job. So let us be proud of it, knowing full well we have all done our best, up to a point. Now we must turn our minds to the organization of our Farmers' Union. See to it that we have a strong Union built upon a concrete foundation or WE will fail again. Yes, there is work for our women to do to build up this organization.

### A. F. U. ACTION PROGRAMME

How many of our farm-women have read and studied the A. F. U. Action Program? It was published on page 17, of the "Western Producer" on October 5th. My belief is that we are now on the right track. All these items, such as "Security of Land Tenure," and "Adequate market facilities." "Better standard of living" for all as mentioned in our Action Program will be attended to if we could get concerted action from all farmers.

### WHAT IS WOMAN'S PLACE IN THE POST-WAR WORLD?

Lady Margaret Alexander, of England recently expressed herself on "Freedom for Women" after the war in a manner that should call the attention of women all over the world. Our Canadian women would be well advised to give serious consideration to women's place in the post-war world.

Referring to the 7,000,000 British women now in the forces and in full time war work, a large number will need to summon all their ability as homemakers to restore all the lost comforts of home life. A minority, whether large or small, and only time will tell,—will want to stay in the forces or continue in civilian life. Many whose sweethearts or husbands have not returned from the battle fields may never marry or re-marry, will want to remain at work.

The Union is trying to help all women to obtain these freedoms:

1. Freedom to raise families in decent conditions.
2. Freedom to create leisure and the opportunity to use it.
3. Freedom to buy the things of which we have long been deprived, a greater variety of food, good furniture and clothes.

### VOICE MUST BE HEARD

Pre-natal, hospital, clinical and health services have made great strides in this war, women should insist on their constant improvement. We must declare war on the tragedy of sickly mothers

and infants. I believe woman's place is in the home but in this enlightened age she does not need to be anchored to it by iron fetters. Too often women have been blamed for taking too little interest in current affairs, for not even using their vote. The truth is that when their day's work is done—if it ever is?—they have little or no time or energy left for discussions of public matters. I do not suggest every woman should go into public life. Although we need more women M. P.'s and we must be careful in selecting the very best and most qualified women as members of the house of commons and local councillors too. Government was never purely a man's job and it will be less so after the war. Woman's voice must be heard, more and more clearly pronouncing and up-holding the good and clean things of life, happy homes and happy families. Without which there can be no true peace.

#### WOMAN

Disguise our bondage as we will,  
'Tis WOMAN, woman rules us still.  
—More (Sovereign Woman).

## Notice Annual Convention Date

The Executive have set the date of the Provincial Convention to commence Tuesday, January 23rd, and will continue to the 25th with arrangements made for the use of the hall until the afternoon of the 26th, if it is required.

The Masonic Temple has again been chosen for the Convention.

#### ELECTION OF DELEGATES

We wish to draw to the attention of all our locals the importance of holding meetings and getting delegates elected for the Convention.

Discussion should be held in the locals on our Action Program, Action Fund and proposals for a Co-Op Packing Plant so that delegates will be informed of the stand which their local takes on these matters.

The cut-off date for Resolutions has been set at 31st December 1944.

#### TRANSPORTING FARM PRODUCE

Farmers using their own trucks to transport their farm goods to market are exempt from the 35-mile limit on road travel, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board explained today. A recent statement from Transit Controller, George S. Gray, warned commercial truckers that the 35-mile limit must be observed during the fall movement of produce to market.

## Pembina Valley Flood Relief Fund

Oct. 5th.	S. Lubchynsky, Alpen Siding	\$2.00
Oct. 5th.	F. Schubert, Alpen Siding	1.00
Oct. 5th.	N. Sawchuk, Alpen Siding	1.00
Oct. 6th.	Local No. 192	18.00
Oct. 12th.	Local No. 190	7.00
Oct. 12th.	Local No. 654	5.00
Oct. 16th.	Local No. 320	22.00
Oct. 16th.	Local No. 546	10.00
Oct. 16th.	J. Morrison (Personal)	7.00
Oct. 23rd.	Local No. 313	15.00
Oct. 28th.	Local No. 252	25.00
Oct. 28th.	Local No. 94	24.00
Nov. 1st.	Local No. 425	23.50
Nov. 10th.	Local No. 696	6.50
Nov. 10th.	Steve Dubey	1.00
Nov. 10th.	Mike Markovic	2.00
Nov. 10th.	Ruby Mates	1.18

#### FLOOD FUND

The amount collected to date by the Alberta Farmers' Union for the victims of the Pembina Valley Flood Fund is \$3,800.00.

This amount has been turned over to the Alberta Livestock Co-Operative for distribution along with their own fund which amounted to approximately \$20,000.00.

The Alberta Livestock Co-Operative employed a personal investigator who also had access to the reports made by the Provincial Government and it was felt by the Executive of the Alberta Farmers' Union that the money should be distributed as fairly as possible with the least expense and duplication.

The Executive of the Alberta Farmers' Union accordingly passed the following resolution:

"That the Alberta Livestock Co-Operative already has a field man employed in the person of Mr. Peter Wylie who has made an extensive personal investigation and report. It is decided in order to avoid all unnecessary expense, our portion of the fund amounting to \$3,800.00 be turned over to the Alberta Livestock Co-Operative for distribution. We are satisfied that the method of allotting payments as proposed by Mr. Wylie are as just and satisfactory as could be devised and we would like a Representative of the Alberta Farmers' Union to sit in with them and see that publicity is given to that portion of the contribution made by the Alberta Farmers' Union."

#### CORRECTION FLOOD FUND

The donation credited to Pembridge Baseball Club of \$79.00, should really have read Meadowview Local No. 418 \$74.00, and Pembridge Baseball Club \$5.00.

# RECONSTRUCTION SURVEY

Press Statement Issued by Chairman Reginald T. Rose

Assurances from the major farm organizations that farmers will co-operate in every possible way will ensure the success of the Post-War Survey now being organized on a province wide scale under the authority of the Reconstruction Committee of the Provincial Government, Reg. T. Rose, Chairman of the Survey Management Committee said in Edmonton today.

Organization of 24 regional committees under which the farm survey will be conducted has already begun. Farm for Victory Committees and District Agriculturists will also assist in arranging the organization necessary to secure the distribution and answering of the more than 2500 questionnaires which will comprise the farm survey sampling. In addition to the farm survey, studies will also be made in residences in every larger community, and in all types of business.

The Farm Questionnaire, it is expected will produce answers to many questions now sought by the Dominion Agricultural authorities it has been stated; Dominion Economics Branch and Prof. Stewart of the University of Alberta, Wm. Hawrelak, Jr. and Rudolph Hennig together with H. E. Nichols of the A. F. U. acting for Mr. Hawrelak in his absence, comprise the farm representation on the management committee.

Organization preparations are to be completed by November 30th and it is anticipated that the survey will take place commencing January 15th, 1945. It is to be completed by February 1st and tabulated by February 28th.

Co-operation of all farmers is invited.

## REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING

By A. F. U. Secretary

The Provincial Government has decided to set up Regional Post-War Reconstruction Committees throughout the Province and a Head Committee will direct their affairs from Edmonton. On this Head Committee are representatives of the Provincial Department and they are as follows: Professor Stewart of the Survey Department, Mr. Spence, Head of Economics Branch of the University of Alberta, Mr. Rose of the Chamber of Commerce, who is also the Chairman of the Committee, as well as representatives from the Alberta Farmers' Union, United Farmers of Alberta, and business and industrial organizations. Mr. Anderson, secretary of the Sub-Committee on Industry, is in charge of the organizing of regional sub-committees.

The first meeting of the Head Committee was held in Edmonton in the Parliament Build-

ing Friday, November 10th, 1944, and the proposed plan of the work was discussed.

The province will be divided into twenty-five areas in which Regional Committees will operate. These Regional Committees will distribute questionnaires on four primary matters and these are as follows: Agriculture, industry, business and household. A proportionate survey will be made of the farms. About two thousand farms out of the total of 100,000 in the province were a two per cent sample. These farms will be chosen by location as being representative of that part of the province and will not be left to the canvasser's choice.

Questionnaires will be provided for each one of the selected farms to fill in and these will deal with the purchases which a farmer proposes to make after the war, providing certain conditions are existing. These purchases cover the whole range of a farmer's requirements. Questions are also asked as to what in a farmer's estimation are most required of Government undertakings in order to provide needed facilities, etc. (These farm questionnaires are very good if the assumptions are looked at in the right way, and should be very helpful). Other questionnaires will be provided to cover business, industry and household.

It is the intention at the present time to make a 100% survey of business and industry as compared to a two percent cross sections of the farms. While in the case of the household survey a five percent cross section will be sought.

A small sum of money will be provided for the Secretary's expenses of the Regional Committees, but all the other work is expected to be borne by the representatives of the organizations who are interested and to whom the work is entrusted.

The chairman and secretary of each region will be invited to Edmonton early in January, in order to discuss the progress and completion of the work in the shortest possible time, and allowances will be made to cover total expenses of this trip.

Each district will appoint its own Secretary, and the Municipalities and Elepator Companies are being asked to co-operate.

A further meeting of the Head Committee will be held Thursday, November 30th, at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The particulars obtained in this survey will not be used for any other purpose than for finding out what are the requirements and intentions in the way of purchases in the immediate post-war period.

Any information given will not be devulgued as relating to your farm but will simply be used to prepare figures of an over-all picture.

We therefore request all our farmers to give their utmost co-operation when requested to do so in order to make this survey a success.

This is the first time in history that such a survey has ever been thought of let alone attempted, and we are hoping that it will foreshadow the coming of a new era when the real wants of the people will receive consideration from the Government ahead of time, rather than lagging behind several years after they are overdue.

## Synopsis of Executive Meeting

Held November 7th, 1944

In addition to deciding on the method for distributing the monies of the flood fund, the Executive of the Alberta Farmers' Union received a delegation representing the C. C. I. L., headed by Mr. J. B. Brown, President.

Other members of the Committee were Mr. R. Marler, C. Campbell, Mgr., Alberta Livestock Co-operative, Mr. A. Davie, and Mr. Sparks.

Mr. Brown outlined in his presentation the method of financing which had already been made. The C. C. I. L. has agreed to raise \$750,000 in share and loan capital in addition to the \$250,000 presently subscribed. C. C. I. L. has also agreed to double its membership. For their part the governments have promised to contribute \$750,000 by way of a loan. The established co-operatives will provide \$500,000. This makes a total of two and a quarter million dollars. Two and a quarter million dollars of capital—plus at least double the present membership.

On behalf of the Alberta Farmers' Union Mr. Jackson promised that an effort would be made to get enough support from the farmers to put the C. C. I. L. on a satisfactory financial basis.

Suggestions were received from two delegates from District No. 9, Mr. H. Young, Director and Mr. A. D. Olson, President, regarding Broadcasting.

One was that a broadcast be prepared by any District Executive for delivery the week following the issue of the A. F. U. Bulletin so that due notice would be given. It was also suggested that a series of "spots" be put on the three radio stations being used in order to advertize the Union and these broadcasts.

A report was received from the Committee which consulted with a committee of the United Farmers of Canada (Sask. Section). This appears on another page.

## LABOR UNIONS

Mr. McAuslane of the Canadian Congress of Labor gave a picture of Labor Union organization as far as it was related to the Canadian Congress of Labor.

Only a very small proportion of workers at present belong to any Union. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  million of the workers of Canada are in any Unions. The situation is worst in Quebec and the Maritimes. Of approximately 60,000 steel workers in Quebec, only 5,000 are Union.

About 24 organizers (full time) are kept on the job constantly at good pay and expenses by the Congress and in addition the separate Unions do a lot of organizing at their own expense.

In Saskatchewan the C. C. L. is making good progress organizing Civil Servants, Packing House Workers, etc.

He admitted the Labor situation from the point of view of labor Union organizational success was not very bright but that progress was being made and that the C. C. L. had offered to amalgamate with the Trades and Labor Congress on more than one occasion and were still desirous of doing so.

Since the start of the war the membership had increased more rapidly and he figured the C. C. L. had a membership of 300,000.

It is proposed by C. C. L. to set up an Alberta Congress of Labor for the purpose of bringing together the representatives of the different unions and out of this they hoped that a Legislative committee might be formed which would be helpful in presenting all labor problems to the legislature.

As a similar body sponsored by the Trades and Labor Congress is already in existence it was hoped that these two bodies might work together and this might result in the eventual combining of the two main Unions.

Mr. McAuslane reported that although the Amalgamated Building Workers' Union had voted to affiliate with the C. C. L. this had not yet been accepted and he stated that the membership of the A. B. W. was not much in excess of 5,000.

He stated that during his stay in Edmonton an effort would be made to set up the beginnings of a committee which would be a contact between the C. C. L. and the A. F. U. and could consult immediately on matters which concerned both farmer and labour.

It was suggested that a delegate from the C. C. L. to the A. F. U. convention and vice versa would be helpful in order that the different viewpoint of each organization might be presented to the other and thus help understanding.

The next C. C. L. convention will be about September, 1945.

Mr. McAuslane thought that at the present stage it would be better to have a working agree-

ment rather than direct affiliation and the A.F.U. Executive agreed.

It was decided to send two delegates to the Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Canada (Sask. Section) to convey fraternal greetings and explain our Action Program. Mr. C. O. McGowan and Mr. Geo. Bevington were appointed.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Sir:-

Received two large posters re our Union and two of the members who have P.S.V. trucks are displaying them.

We held a meeting on the 13th and had two speakers present to speak on two very vital subjects of interest to all farmers. One was on a local cold storage plant and it was received very good, with the amount of members secured it will be put in operation very shortly. Throughout this south country cold storage plants are being installed in all the towns and hamlets. They are very economical for the farmer as well as a great benefit during the summer months. 200 members can have their own cold storage plant and I thought this was a good subject for other locals as good material for discussion.

The other speaker spoke on the Community Auction Cattle Sales Association and it has been found to be very beneficial to the farmers since buying is done direct instead of through individual buyers which net the farmer higher income on the sales. Corrals and scales have been installed in Whiskey Gap for this purpose.

I am also writing about my copy of the Bulletin. I asked all the other members if they were receiving theirs and they replied satisfactory, but I have not received my August and September copies. Will you please look into this for me. I consider the Bulletin an absolute necessity if members are to be kept informed on vital subjects that will come up from time to time.

Yours respectfully,  
Secretary, G. H. Lightfoot.

Dear Sir:-

Will you please send me a copy of the April Bulletin to which you so often refer regarding the Union of Electors proposition. I took all my copies of the Bulletin to our June meeting to encourage members to subscribe so they might know for what we stand and are working. I don't know who got my April number, hence my request for another copy. Should this be impossible, could you reprint it every three months not only for the benefit of new subscribers, but to keep it before all members? It is only by constant repetition that good things are indelibly written on the minds of the people.

Also I would like to see periodicals and books of enlightening nature recommended to our members for study (including the bulletins on topics for discussion). One such book I would especially like every member to read, and that is E. Bellamy's "Equality." This book should be read from the housetops to all the people; it would change our government in one generation.

Thanking you, I remain,  
A member of A. F. U., Cadogan Local.  
Dorothy Mailer.

Vauxhall, Alberta.  
October 9th, 1944.

Dear Sirs:-

Regarding your folder re the booklets Alberta Farmers' Union Action Program. I have received several but that is not enough. I would like about 40 or 50 to distribute among our members as they all want one. Thank you.

Yours truly,  
Secretary, Peter Forchuk.

Secretary,  
Alberta Farmers' Union.

Dear Sir:-

We received a copy of your "Action Program" booklet and our members discussed the topics at length and all were unanimous in agreeing that these proposals are the solution to our problems. As for the Co-Op Packing Plant our members are 100% behind the proposal and I would be safe in saying that our little group would average more than one share each. We will express our agreement in the form of a resolution if you wish. As you know we have twenty-four members and several have agreed to buy two or more shares and all would be willing to subscribe to the extent of \$10.00 each.

Yours truly,  
(Mrs.) H. L. Johnson, Lindale.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find 50c renewal for A. F. U. Bulletin. The rush of summer activities seem to have caused us to overlook the renewal but we always appreciate the Bulletin.

Yours truly,  
J. A. Cameron, Millet.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THREE LAKES LOCAL

Fellow Members of our Organization:-

I take this liberty in writing to you all and base my opinion on actual experience. This is not the first Union I have had the pleasure of supporting. Having perhaps had a kind of a roving commission and being a Jack of all Trades I have supported in days gone by the Builders'

Union in the old land, then the Sailors' Union under both the British Merchant Service and that of the U. S. A., and now have finally come back to mother earth as some twenty thousand other members of our organization have done.

I am trying to support what seems to me to be or should be the greatest Union of them all. You and I, my friends, hold the destiny of the whole world in our hands. The opportunity is ours; let us use it and the only way it is possible for us to make the best of this great opportunity is to build our Union up to a point where we will be strong enough to demand the justice that should be ours.

Some months ago the Local of which I am President, unfortunately became involved in a legal dispute owing to the action taken to protect a number of our fellow members from a gross injustice which had been done them by a certain business man with whom they had been dealing. We appealed for assistance from our Union, but the only thing they were able to do was to give us advice. The consequence was that owing to financial circumstances we were forced to capitulate with an apology and legal expenses. Now my friends, I ask you, if this had been the Railway Workers' Union, would they have capitulated in such a meek manner? I can assure you they would not, and why? Simple because they, unlike us, were fully organized.

Brother farmers, it is useless building up false hopes. This organization of ours can boast of a competent Executive from the President down but unless we, the members, rally round them and give them our full co-operation, our cause will be lost. I verily hope that I am wrong but personally I can see a waning of enthusiasm at least in this great North land and I beg of you all to wake up and give your President and his colleagues all the support you can.

#### NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

How can we best do this is a simple question to answer. This year will soon be a memory. We are on the threshold of 1945. Is it too much to ask every one of you to bring into the fold just one new member? I suggest that you let this be your New Year's resolution and should you fail, then hand over to your Union the price of one membership — this to be used as a special fund to be decided by your Executive.

The war is not yet won; we farmers have not failed our boys and girls over there, but our great opportunity is facing us. There it stands out in plain words, "Be Prepared," and unless we are, we shall be condemned by those boys who return from a living hell only to find that we have failed them and have sentenced them to a life of misery such as was theirs before they started down the trail to give their all that we might have liberty.

There are a few very important points I wish to remind you of and the first of these is PAY UP your dues as soon as your membership expires. You have your card and are in the best position to know when they are due. Remember, our Local Secretaries are not paid and their time is just as valuable as yours and mine.

Secondly, hold your meeting every month and come prepared with something constructive to discuss concerning your organization.

Thirdly, remember that in order to keep well posted with the work being done by your Union, take the Bulletin which is published for that particular purpose. I trust that these few hints will be the means of stirring up the initiative in some of us, and in closing I wish to pass on to each and every one of you the best wishes for this coming festive season and may the New Year bring us that wish, which goes out from the hearts of all "Peace on Earth, Good Will towards all Men."

#### Attention Ukrainian Members

Your Central Office wishes to announce that Mr. Thos. Tomashavsky, editor of the Farmers' Herald, A. F. U. organ in Ukrainian language, is now on a speaking tour in North-Eastern parts of the province where he will speak among the Ukrainian farmers on behalf of Alberta Farmers' Union and Farmer's Herald, at as many places as will be possible in the time at his disposal between November 20th and 27th.

His first meeting is scheduled to take place on November 20th, at 2:15 p. m. at Barrich; November 21st, at 2:00 p. m. at Smoky Lake. From Smoky Lake he will proceed to Bonnyville district where his meetings will be arranged by Mr. N. Baron, Director of District No. 4.

Farmers at Bonnyville and surrounding AFU Locals will be notified of time and places of the meetings by posters. Watch for these announcements and try to attend these meetings.

Later on Mr. Tomashavsky will hold a series of meetings on the Willingdon-Lloydminster line between Derwent and St. Michael. Schedule of these meetings will be announced in the Farmers' Herald for November as well as through notices to be sent out to our secretaries in ample time to advertise such meetings.

#### For Sale

CHOICE QUALITY YORKSHIRES  
from advance registered stock; weanlings,  
boars and gilts. My stock is from the best  
herds in Canada. For prices, etc., write  
Mr. W. Dallaire, Mallaig, Alberta.

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## Taxing the Co-ops.

All people who understand the nature of a true co-operative set-up will be amazed that the taxing Department of the Dominion Government should attempt to levy income tax on the undistributed surpluses which the Wheat Pools have in their possession. These surpluses are not the property of the Pools. They are the property of the farmers who shipped their wheat and when this money is paid out in a later payment it will be subject to the income tax regulations which apply to individuals.

It seems a direct violation of justice for the same taxing authority to tax the same income twice and the same principle is involved here. These undistributed surpluses are part of the income of the farmers and are not in any sense an "income belonging to the Pools." The farmer will have to pay income taxes on this money when he receives it, if he gets enough to make him liable to income tax, and therefore no tax should be imposed before he receives it.

There seems to be a strong tendency on the part of the taxing authorities to view the farmers' "gross income" and also capital increment as being fair game for taxation while no attempt is made to place such impositions on other businesses. As a matter of fact a lot of exemptions are made notably to some firms manufacturing munitions and money has also been advanced by the Government interest free, to enlarge their plants.

Arrangements have also been made whereby these advances shall be repaid out of the profits which accrue from Government contracts which have been let to them on a cost, plus basis.

### EQUITY

Compare this with the treatment which a farmer receives. In some cases farmers have built up a herd of livestock in response to Government urging for war production and now owing to lack of adequate help, after working himself and wife almost to death, he is compelled to sell his accumulated stock. This brings him into the higher income brackets (for one

year only) and he has to pay an extravagant tax. He has sunk money derived from other sources into this line of endeavor, in some cases just to help the war effort, and if he has reached an age when he can only carry on in a much smaller way, the tax takes a slice out of his capital investment which is entirely unjustified. We know of farmers who have considerable mortgages and because of quota restrictions have not been able to sell their grain in the year in which it was grown and consequently their mortgages were not reduced. They were hoping that their stored grain would enable them to make a big cut in the mortgage when they were able to sell, and don't forget, they had to take a lot of risks while storing the grain.

When the wheat quota restrictions were removed in the summer of 1944 this grain was saleable but had farmers sold it they would have had to pay such an income tax levy that the major portion of their grain would have been eaten up by taxes and practically no payment could have been made from off the mortgage principal.

To add insult to injury and deferred payments which such a farmer would have coming from the Wheat Pool would be subject to additional income tax if the attempts being made by those opposed to co-op effort are successful.

This Union wishes to give its utmost support to true co-operative effort and while urging that no avenue be neglected which will enable further progress to be made, will resist to the utmost any attempt to check the progress which has been made by unjustified taxation.

Head Office has a good supply of meeting posters on hand which we shall be glad to supply to our secretaries and organizers upon request.

These posters have a picture cartoon in the centre which immediately calls attention to the fact that it is an A. F. U. poster and will draw attention to your A. F. U. meeting notice in a crowd of other posters.

Write for the number you need.

## RADIO FUND DONATIONS

Oct. 7th.	Local No. 191	\$23.35
Oct. 17th.	Local No. 635	10.00
Oct. 17th.	Local No. 186	5.00
Oct. 18th.	Local No. 215	25.00
Oct. 21st.	Mr. R. Halbert, Trochu	.50
Nov. 1st.	Local No. 672	10.00
Nov. 6th.	Local No. 318	5.00
Nov. 6th.	Local No. 543	10.30
Nov. 7th.	Local No. 101	10.00
Nov. 8th.	Local No. 269	7.00
Nov. 9th.	Local No. 705	14.00

# Broadcast Dealing with Farmers' Platform

## FARMERS' PLATFORM

We as farmers have a platform of our own and all other working people can endorse it and they also have a platform of their own which we farmers can endorse. As a matter of fact about 90% of the people want about the same things and these are fundamental and quite simple. If this is the case why should these people be divided when it comes to casting their vote for what they want? The farmers want Parity Prices, adequate markets and security of tenure to protect them against crop failure through some natural catastrophe over which they have no control. The ordinary worker wants security in his home, good working conditions and a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, and both of them want freedom from aggravating regulations and regimentation. When you have said that you have covered just about all the fundamental things which the farmer and the worker want, and they are nearly all agreed on these things; there is consequently no division among them on these matters. Their wants are quite simply stated; but they are enough; and given these essentials all the other frills that go to make party platforms can just about be forgotten. Most of the National Health schemes that are offered for instance are put forward on the assumption that we are, and always will be, a poverty-stricken people, unable to pay our own way and cannot obtain what we need in the way of medical health services for ourselves. With parity prices and fair wages the need for this would disappear and as a large proportion of ill-health is caused by worry, the removal of the cause for worry over financial matters especially, would speedily bring about a great improvement in National health. We of the Alberta Farmers' Union are working towards having an agreement with other organizations of the Union workers so that we can demand the fundamental things mentioned from any government. Our first job, of course, is to fight for the Farmers' interests taking care that we do not infringe on the rights of the others in doing so. We are justly proud of our slogan of "Parity Prices" because it means that we only demand what is coming to us. We do not wish to take anything from anybody else and we know that Parity Prices will only give to the farmer that share of the National income to which he is justly entitled and we mean to get just that.

A small booklet has been sent out from the Head Office of the Union dealing with all the essential points of the Farmers' Platform. All these points have been derived from resolutions

passed from time to time by the membership of the Union and have been carefully studied by your Board of Directors and compiled into this booklet.

## NON PARTIZAN POLITICAL ACTION

All the points mentioned in this platform have to be obtained eventually by political action. There is no other way by which, in a democracy, they can be obtained. But this does not mean that our Union is going to take partisan political action. That has been tried before and it not only failed but resulted in splitting up the farmers' forces. What we propose to do is to get the candidates of all parties to pledge themselves to support our farmers' platform. They will just have two choices to make. They can either accept it or reject it. If they accept it and pledge themselves to speak and vote for it until it becomes accomplished, then, our members may accept them. If they reject it and decide in favour of allegiance to their party then our members will reject them. In the rural constituencies the farmers represent about 75% of the vote and they can elect any candidate they unitedly support. A candidate who decides to work in the interests of the people's platform or the farmers' platform will not need to fear the party "whip" and in a comparatively short time we can effectively do away with all the disadvantages of our present party system. Then the will of the people will be able to prevail and as most people are already agreed on their fundamental requirements, there need not be much delay in putting them into effect. Now I will go into some detail in this platform of ours because although our ultimate objective is Parity Prices, there are other steps which have to be taken before we can arrive there, which must be taken first. These steps constitute our "immediate action program" and we want to take them and consolidate each one as we take it so that we can never be compelled to retreat. Each one as we take it will bring us closer to our objective and will strengthen our foothold for the next step.

## MAKE FINANCE THE SERVANT!

Along with Parity Prices we must have adequate markets because if we had to accept a very low quota owing to lack of markets, then, even with parity prices we could not sell sufficient to meet our expenses. Consequently we must have adequate markets and we are assured by the findings of the Food Conference held at Hot Springs that there is plenty of need for our production. However, we must not be dependent on

what a world price, in dollars, is willing to offer for our produce; because that may be too low to cover our production costs. We find as a result of investigation that international trade is carried on between those nations which are willing to exchange goods or services with one another and therefore international trade does not result in any money being transferred or increased by reason of the exchange of commodities between nations. This being the case there is nothing to prevent our Bank of Canada being used as the instrument to pay the Canadian farmer a Canadian price for his production so that he can pay taxes and buy machinery also based on a Canadian scale of prices.

In other words the ten-year-old promise made by Mr. MacKenzie King will be put into effect and public credit issued in terms of public need. The Canadian farmer will thus be able to buy the imported products received in exchange for his Canadian wheat and this will be a firm basis for all round prosperity; because when the farmer is prosperous, everyone else is prosperous.

By the intelligent use of our own financial institutions we can thus ensure an adequate market for a large quantity of wheat and if the report from the Hot Springs Conference which was attended by some individuals prominent in the Co-operative movements, can be relied on, then there will not be any need for restrictive quotas for many years to come. If such measures should become necessary then the farmers will be willing to accept as a quota their share of any market which meets the actual needs of the consumers.

#### INEQUITABLE TAXATION

Certain inequitable practices have been put into operation by our taxing authorities which exercise discrimination against the farmer and must be removed. In spite of the fact that farm debts increased during the thirties owing to inadequate prices and the working of the compound interest system, farmers are being charged income tax on the amounts which they pay off these debts. It should be apparent to the meanest intelligence that these monies cannot be called income in any sense of the word but represent a delayed payment on principal which was unavoidable and upon which the farmer is already being penalized by the interest charge. This is plainly an attempt to still further embarrass those who having no protection from low prices, continued to produce at a mounting loss to themselves.

We will take again the case of a farmer who has not received payment in full for his wheat for the past three years, or who was unable to sell what he had owing to quota restrictions and thus was unable to meet his indebtedness. Now

that these payments are being made, even though they are deferred payments, the income tax is being levied as if they were the normal income for one year. No other body of workers has such conditions imposed on them and we want all non-members who believe in elemental justice to join our Union so that we can more effectively resist these unfair impositions. The cases recounted are not the only ones in which the income tax regulations are bearing unjustly on the farmers and we cannot go into them all here but enough has been said to prove that either there is a deliberate attempt to fleece the farmer or else those entrusted with the framing of the income tax regulations are utterly unfitted for the job. These things must be rectified and it will take united action by the farmers to accomplish it.

#### FREIGHT RATE REVISION

In addition to the need for the Income Tax revision there is a real need for a Freight Rate revision. Some of the handicaps imposed on western farmers by discriminatory freight rates are so idiotic that they would be laughable if they were not so serious.

In reply to our protest to the Transport Department against such obvious injustices as are shown by the rates charged on barbed wire, flannelette and condensed milk whereby farmers in Alberta have to pay more than twice as much as the eastern rates we received a flock of forms to fill out which would have taken a month of enquiry and work to fill. It is by such red tape methods that bureaucratic government officials, often misnamed civil servants, because they neither fulfil their function as servants and neither are they civil, defeat the intention of our parliamentary representatives and set themselves up as the real rulers of the people. These people draw their salaries as a result of the work and services rendered by others and if required to actually earn their living by their own efforts would probably die of under-nourishment.

The Transport Commission should make it their job to see that an equitable freight rate of so much per ton, per mile, is brought into existence on all railroad hauling regardless of whether there is competitive water transport or not. The so-called Spokane freight rates which have been in existence for over twenty years south of the boundary, could serve as a model in this respect and there does not seem to be any good reason why similar rates should not prevail in Canada.

In addition to the matters already mentioned the subjects of Education and Recreation are also dealt with, and together form the Farmers' Platform.

These have been sent out to the officials of each Local. More will be printed and sent out to any person on request.

## MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

We want our farmers to use this booklet when any political meeting takes place in your neighborhood and ask the candidate to pledge his or her support to the farmers' platform and sign the pledge on the last page.

If this is done thoroughly it will show every candidate that the farmer electors are united in

a common cause and will also convince them that the electors are in earnest.

We have the future of the farming business in our hands and we have the opportunity now of ensuring that the business of farming itself shall be on a parity with all other occupations. It has been said that "opportunity" only knocks once. Let us make sure that we do not miss this great opportunity.

## PRESS STATEMENT

### A F U and U F C (Sask. Section) MEET PLAN OF ACTION AGREED UPON

Joint committees of the United Farmers of Canada (Sask. Section) and the Alberta Farmers' Union met at Macklin on October 27 and 28 to consider matters of importance to farmers. An "Action Program" was approved and will be submitted to the Annual Conventions of both of these bodies with the objective in view of getting the combined farmer strength of the whole Dominion behind it. This would correspond to the "Farm Bloc" in the United States.

A number of preliminary steps were agreed upon which must be taken in order to lead up to the achievement of Parity Prices which is the Ultimate objective of both organizations.

Such matters of importance to Western farmers as Security of Tenure, complete revision of the Freight Rate Structure so as to remove all discrimination now existing between Eastern and Western freight rates. Urge that a strong committee representative of the three Western Provinces be set up to publicize the Hudson Bay Railway and the facilities and advantages of the Port Churchill route, and also that Western trade representatives be established at appropriate port centres to facilitate and promote trade arrangements. Opening of the United States markets to surplus Canadian cattle and the providing of facilities to handle the fall run of hogs so as to insure the producers against loss. Besides exploring the possibility of a Co-Operative Bank and endorsing the Co-op Farm Machinery enterprise.

A resolution was passed expressing the view that the policy of finance must be so controlled as to give Parity Prices to farmers and fair prices to the consumer so as to enable them to buy the nation's total production of consumable goods including goods imported in exchange for exports.

**MEETING HELD AT EMPIRE HOTEL, MACKLIN, SASKATCHEWAN, on October 27th and 28th, 1944 BETWEEN COMMITTEES OF THE UNITED FARMERS OF CANADA (SASK. SECTION) AND THE ALBERTA FARMERS'**

UNION. For the purpose of discussing the "A. F. U. Action Program" which would tend to unite all farmers.

The personnel of the committees was as follows:

U. F. C. (S. S.) F. Appleby, President R. Gooding, Director B. Bickerton, Publicity Mrs. Hart, Director Mr. Hart, Director	A. F. U. C. O. McGowan, 1st Vice-Pres. G. Bevington, Director H. E. Nichols, Secretary
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It was moved by Mr. Appleby that George Bevington be chairman and this was agreed upon unanimously.

It was then moved by Mr. Gooding that H. E. Nichols be acting Secretary.

Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Bickerton gave a short resume of the objectives which both organizations have in view and called attention to the fact that there was a great degree of similarity between them and therefore the desirability of setting forth a common objective.

Mr. Appleby gave an account of the framing and presenting of the United Farmers of Canada (Saskatchewan Section) brief to the Banking and Commerce Committee of the Dominion Parliament at Ottawa in July, 1944.

A general discussion took place on matters of how agriculture was affected by the financial policy pursued by the Government and continued until 12:30 when a motion to adjourn till 1:30 was accepted.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT 1:30 P. M.

The discussion was continued during the course of which the Alberta Farmers' Union proposals for Security of Land Tenure as submitted to the Provincial Government of Alberta were read and requests were made for copies of this by the members of the Saskatchewan committee.

A resolution was moved asking that the country's financial policy be regulated to provide for Parity Prices, etc.

**RESOLUTION:-**

WHEREAS general agreement has been expressed by farmer and labour movements as well as by men high up in the Councils of Nations that the problem of low prices, lack of markets and unemployment, is largely a monetary one and that a considerable measure of relief from these afflictions can be obtained through the exercise of a proper control over finance in the interests of the people, and

WHEREAS an international gold standard which is being advocated by some as a fundamental necessity in the post-war reconstruction period has been found to work very much to the disadvantage of true international trade in the past and has been abandoned in times of economic stress by such a staunch adherent of free trade as Great Britain and even the valuation of gold was altered by the United States in 1934 when the gold was revalued (from \$20.67 to \$35.00 per oz.) thus changing the so-called standard altogether.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in the interests of all the people of Canada who depend for their livelihood on the production, trade and commerce of the country (and of the World) this Conference between the United Farmers of Canada (Sask. Section) and the Alberta Farmers' Union representing a combined membership of 50,000 farmers demand that the people of Canada must have absolute control of the policy of finance under the direction of Parliament, and the country's financial system must be operated to provide for:

- i.—Parity prices for farm products.
- ii.—Adequate credit to finance agricultural and all other needed production.
- iii.—An equitable adjustment and settlement of debts.
- iv.—Consumer prices which are fair and which will enable the people to buy the nation's total production of consumable goods including goods imported in exchange for exports.

Moved by G. Bickerton, seconded by C. O. McGowan. Carried Unanimously.

A proposal was discussed to enable Co-operatives to get financial credit from the Bank of Canada for the purpose of financing the production of their patrons.

#### RESOLUTION RE BANK

THAT WHEREAS the people of Canada are entitled to demand that the financial system should be run equally for the benefit of all the people of Canada; and

WHEREAS this has never yet been done;

THEREFORE we demand that the interests of the people demand that any co-operative organization which mobilizes real wealth shall have the right to hypothecate the documentary title to the

real wealth of its patrons with the Bank of Canada and shall receive in exchange, at cost, the value in money represented by this produce at the existing market prices.

Mr. Appleby and Mr. McGowan.

Carried Unanimously.

The following resolution on Co-op Expansion was moved by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Bickerton:

WHEREAS we believe the time in co-operative development has come and is opportune to expand to the co-operative ownership of flour mills, coal mines, timber concessions, sawmills, oil wells, packing plants and tanneries, wool mills and other manufactures to supply our increasing co-operative wholesale and retail needs, and

WHEREAS we believe that at least 50% of our prairie farmers have the knowledge and sufficient confidence in co-operation as being the foundation upon which the future order of society will be established and would therefore subscribe the finances necessary to bring about the control and development in the wider field of co-operative enterprise,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a western co-operative conference be called for the purpose of organizing the sale of shares to individual farmers and other, to establish a bank for co-operative development, said shares to be of \$500.00 denomination, \$250.00 to be paid at the time of application and balance to be paid on call in not less than six month periods. Carried.

Moved to adjourn till 9:00 a. m. Saturday, October 28th. Bickerton and McGowan. Carried.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 28th.

All present. Chairman:- Mr. G. Bevington.

#### HUDSON BAY - CHURCHILL ROUTE

The question of freight rates over the respective routes to Churchill and Fort William was discussed and the following resolution was moved.

WHEREAS after many years of organized effort, the Hudson Bay Railway was constructed and grain storage and other facilities were established at Port Churchill for the expected purpose of providing much shorter rail transportation and a more economical route for the export of Western products and the import of western requirements, and

WHEREAS the practicability of the Route was proved to the general satisfaction of all interested groups, including Provincial and National Governments, before construction of the Railroad and Port facilities were commenced, and

WHEREAS since the completion of the entire project, little or no effort has been made by appropriate departments of the Dominion Government to utilize the Railway or the Port as

a means of export and import, and Prairie Governments have also showed a lack of desire to use the Route as a service utility to our western economy, and

WHEREAS no encouragement has been given or adequate arrangements made to induce farmers to consign grain for export through the Route by accounting to them the financial benefit accruing, if any, from such consigned grain, and

WHEREAS the past and present maintenance cost of a virtually unused costly transportation and harbour enterprise with vast commerce and trade possibilities, must place our Dominion and Provincial administrators in a ridiculous and embarrassing position, viewed by the minds of people elsewhere,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Government, in co-operation with Alberta and Manitoba Governments, if possible, forthwith secure from the Dominion Government the powers to maintain, operate, and administer under a strong representative western committee the Hudson Bay Railway and port and harbour facilities at Churchill as utilities through which to export western products to Eastern Canada, the United States, Latin Americas, and European countries, and to import goods from these points, and further that western trade representatives be established at appropriate port centres to facilitate and promote trade arrangements.

C. O. McGowan and R. Gooding.  
Carried Unanimously.

## HOG MARKETING

The matter of overcoming the threatened congestion in the hog marketing facilities such as happened last fall and spring was discussed and also the lifting of the embargo against the export of surplus cattle to the United States.

The following resolution was moved:-

In view of the fact that there may be such a heavy run of hogs this fall that in spite of the alleviation methods already proposed the present processing facilities will be unable to cope with the offerings; and in the event of this happening all losses resulting from delayed killings, extra freight charges and delayed marketings (by holding back on the farm) will have to be borne by the farmer, and

WHEREAS the heavy production of hogs was undertaken by the farmers as a part of their obligation in the war effort and also in response to Government urging, and

WHEREAS in the event of any methods already proposed failing to cope with the situation (thereby thrusting all responsibility of caring for unmarketable hogs on the producers), and

WHEREAS the Canadian Government may make certain arrangements with the Government

of the United States which it would not be possible for private concerns to make,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Government assume the responsibility for all hogs in excess of the number which can be taken care of under the present processing, storing and shipping facilities and pay for them on a live weight grading basis at point of delivery to the primary market and also make arrangements for the export of surplus cattle to the United States markets.

Bickerton and Hart. Carried Unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 12:30 till 1:30.

## RECONVENED AT 1:30

### FREIGHT RATES

The resolution on freight rates No. 4, as submitted by the Alberta Farmers' Union, was discussed and it was requested that details re discriminatory freight rates be sent to United Farmers of Canada (Sask. Section) office.

The "ACTION PROGRAM" of the Alberta Farmers' Union as publicized in the 5th October 1944 issue of the Western Producer, was read by the Secretary and endorsed section by section with the following amendments:

Under Federal Policies, the Income Tax section to be amended in the second line in the second paragraph by inserting the word "current" before debts; and

Under Provincial Policies the Health section to be amended by striking out the last sentence which reads, "This is to be practiced until Parity Prices are established."

The joint committee then expressed approval of the whole Action Program of the Alberta Farmers' Union and the members of the Saskatchewan Committee will take it to their Annual Convention and endeavour to seek the endorsement of the United Farmers of Canada (Sask. Section) for these policies.

Appleby and McGowan. Carried Unanimously.

### CO-OP FARM MACHINERY

RESOLVED to endorse the farm machinery enterprise as outlined at the Winnipeg meeting for the formation of a Co-op Farm Implement Manufacturing Association.

Hart and McGowan. Carried.

Moved to adjourn until similar meeting was called. Appleby and McGowan. Carried.

### To Our Visitors

When you visit the new A. F. U. offices in Edmonton at 102 LaFleche Building, you observe the rules of the road. Go up the flight of stairs and when you reach the top, turn to the RIGHT and keep to the right and you will BE THERE.

## EXPLAIN FOUNDATION FOR A CO-OPERATIVE PACKING HOUSE

**Local Farmers Hear of Set-up of Lethbridge Co-Operative Abattoirs Ltd. Meeting Under A. F. U. Auspices, with W. H. Childress and L. C. Pharis Speakers. Shares \$100.00 Each With One Vote Regardless of Number of Shares. Questions Asked on Phases of Operation.**

Many questions were asked at a meeting Monday night in the Elks' Hall, following an explanatory talk on the set-up of a Co-Operative Packing Plant at Lethbridge. The meeting was assembled under auspices of the Alberta Farmers' Union, with J. S. McNally chairman, and speakers W. H. Childress, president of district No. 12, and L. C. Pharis of Magrath, director of the A. F. U. Central.

First steps in the formation of the Lethbridge Co-Operative Abattoir Limited were outlined. At the A. F. U. convention in July, a committee was set up to investigate such an organization. They called a meeting for October 3rd, inviting the S. A. Co-Operative Association, Lethbridge Board of Trade, U. F. A. and Lethbridge Central Feeders' Association. The latter's organization explained that they had already taken steps toward organization. A resolution endorsed this action, and a meeting was called to be held on October 18th for the purpose of taking further steps in the way of becoming members of the association and acting toward completion of a permanent organization.

A memorandum of Association has been drawn up and registration has been made with the Registrar of Corporations, Edmonton. A provisional board of seven has been formed. The provincial government, through the Department of Trade and Industry would go to the extent of 85% in loaning to the co-operative plant. It is proposed that shares be sold to producers at \$100 a share, and each shareholder be entitled to one vote regardless of the number of shares he holds. The plan is based on the Rochdale Co-operative system. First moneys paid out would be 5% on investor's capital, before reserves are set aside.

Only one other co-operative packing plant is in operation in Canada, and that is at Barrie, Ontario. Details in respect to operation and returns have been received from this plant and it is apparently quite successful. Much information has been given by Dominion graders and others respecting packing plant operations. Ranchers, as well as farmers of the south appear to be interested from the shareholder standpoint. The Dominion government has promised priorities for equipment for the new building, but electrical equipment may not be immediately available.

"It is a big undertaking" said Mr. Childress, "and it is hoped to be solidly established for after the war, so that farm prosperity during war years may be carried over into post-war years. The question of export trade has to be watched. The British government for example has a beef contract with Argentine, and this may be extended. Argentine is one of Britain's best customers because it accepts British goods in trade. The British co-operatives would be prepared to finance our co-operative packing plant if we could take British products in return, but could we guarantee any such deal? Yet Alberta is greatly dependent on export markets for its produce."

Questions asked brought further light on the project. Rising out of these questions was the statement that the farmer is expected to pay \$100 for a share and an effort will be made to sell \$85,000 worth of shares, the balance to be loaned by the Provincial Government over a 20 year period. At present there is enough livestock shipping out from District 12 to more than supply the packing plant, without need of going to the stockyards at all. The success is based on getting a right start with expert scientific management to meet highly organized competition. One cent a pound may mean the difference between success and failure.

It is hoped to be solidly organized to take the shock of post-war conditions. A co-operative packing plant would be a yardstick, just as the Wheat Pool serves as a valuable yardstick. When the Pool cuts handling charges, other companies must follow suit. The plant will be a farm organization controlled by producers, but those engaged in buying and selling must be trained men. Cut-throat competition may be a post-war danger, but one safeguard would be to keep away from stockyards. If Southern Alberta farmers gave 50c a head from each animal sold it would provide ample working capital to withstand post-war shocks.

Mr. Pharis in his speech dealt mainly with policies of the A. F. U. but speaking on the proposed packing plant and of the necessity for co-operative organizations he said that at every turn farmers are up against organized capital and labor. The only way they can hope for any authority, politically or economically, is by a complete solidarity of front.

Commenting on the prosperous looking High River district, he said that in such a community farmers might feel they did not need a union, but it is necessary to band together to carry war prosperity over into the days of peace. He urged all possible diversification in areas adapted to mixed farming in order that the purely wheat areas might not face broken wheat markets in the future. "The hope of the farmer" he went on "is to sell farm produce reasonably, buy what he

needs reasonably, to live comfortably and provide a nest-egg for his old age. If reasonable prices prevail on farms, farmers will provide their own social security." He outlined A. F. U. policies in parity prices, security of tenure, equitable debt adjustment, health education, adjustment of freight rates, long terms credit facilities and a long range production and marketing program. "The farmer," he said, "is the only producer who asks on the one hand, how much will you give me, and on the other how much must I pay you?"

## The Cost of Handling Farmers' Products

The opinion has often been expressed that merchants who handle farmers' products take far too great a toll for their services. Some have even expressed the view that these charges amount to almost as much as the farmers receive.

An estimate has been made on the handling of hogs and bacon by the Hon. J. G. Taggart, minister of agriculture for the province of Saskatchewan. Here are the figures he gives. For 1943 the value of bacon and of pork offals shipped to Britain was 406 million dollars. The distribution was as follows: To farmers 337 million dollars to marketing agencies 5 million; transportation to seaboard 30 million; to packing plants for their processing and services 34 million, which is slightly over 8 per cent of the sales value.

A similar distribution has been worked out for grain and it is found that the charges on grain for transportation to lakehead terminals and to the grain trade handling the farmer's grain at the elevator, including processing and storing this grain until the buyers require it, is about the same percentage of the sales value for the separate charges as with hogs and bacon.

### Resolution From Highway Local No. 656 Sect'y T. Sherring, Bircham.

WHEREAS the present way of paying the equalization payment on oats and barley, and the drawback on wheat is unfair to the combined producer and feeder, thus penalizing the producer for feeding his own grain,

It is resolved by Highway Local No. 656 of the Alberta Farmers' Union that the equalization payment be made on the produce at the time of marketing, thereby eliminating all unfair practices and costly administration. Bases of subsidy payment to be made according to Experimental Farms Statistics as to the amount of grain fed per unit produced. Example: One 200 lb. hog requiring 1,000 lbs. of grain, subsidy payment at market would be approximately \$3.50 per hog, fed on a ration equal parts oats and barley as present grain subsidy of 10c for oats and 15c for barley.

## THE BOND-AGE

The Government needs money to pay for the Cost of the War in order to carry on the war.

The Government issues a Bond and sells it to a Farmer.

The Farmer buys it and puts it in a chartered Bank for safe-keeping, paying \$3.00 per year for the privilege.

The Farmer needs money to finance his farming operations and obtains a loan from the Bank pledging his Bond as Security for the loan.

The Banker needs more cash to finance his lending operations so he pledges the Farmer's Bond with the Bank of Canada which issues notes to the Chartered Bank for it.

The Chartered Bank then advances credit to another customer to enable him to buy a Bond which in turn is pledged with the Bank for security of the loan with which he buys the Bond.

By the way, the Chartered Banks can make loans up to ten times as much as the money they receive from the Bank of Canada in exchange for one Bond.

This is inflation; and what a round-about way of doing business!

Why could not the Bank of Canada, which belongs to the people of Canada, issue the money needed to carry on the war to the Parliament of Canada (which is supposed to represent the people) and cut out this round-about-way of doing business, incidentally saving the interest?

We wonder, is it for the benefit of the People or the Banks?

## FARM FORUM HANDBOOKS

There are a number of these handbooks in the office and we shall be glad to send them to anyone interested upon request.

## GET IT FROM A. F. U. BULLETIN

The Only Farmers Union Paper in Alberta  
This Form is for Your Convenience — Mail It Today

A. F. U. BULLETIN,  
102 La Fleche Building, Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find 50 cents for one year (25c for six months) Subscription to the A. F. U. Bulletin.

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## Ukrainian Halls Are Said Restored

George A. Campbell, adviser to the custodian of enemy property, said Monday that most of the 50 Ukrainian Labor-Farmer Temple Association halls in Alberta have been restored to their original owners.

In 1940 the Dominion Government under the authority of the Wartime Emergency Act declared the U.L.F.T.A. an unlawful association and took charge of its property. That association was dissolved temporarily and was made incapable of administering its property, which included 18 halls across Canada, according to recent statements here by officials of the association.

In October, 1943, the ban on the U.L.F.T.A. and certain other organizations was removed and their operations were legalized.

Mr. Campbell said that adjustments were being arranged where possible and compensation to the original owners was receiving consideration.

## Production of Penicillin By Agriculture

Methods are being developed at MacDonald College in Ste. Anne de Bellevue near Montreal, by Dr. David Siminovich and Dr. F. S. Thatcher of the Department of Bacteriology for the rapid production of penicillin from agricultural commodities. This is reported in the current issue of the College Journal. The doctors hope that through large scale production of the drug it may be adapted to the treatment of live stock diseases, including mastitis.

### CHANGE IN USED CAR PRICES

October 1st was the cut-off date in the ceiling prices which have been in effect for used trucks and cars under the Wartime Prices and Trade Board schedules. Farmers contemplating purchase or sale of a truck or car should get in touch with the nearest Board office for information on new price ceiling which is from 5% to 10% lower depending on age.

Through an oversight the contribution of \$30.00 made by the Deadwood Local No. 653 to the radio fund, was omitted from our list of acknowledgements in the June Bulletin. We are glad to make this correction.

### RADIO NOTICE

December 19th Radio Broadcast will be sponsored by District No. 9. This broadcast will be written and delivered by a member of their radio committee.

A wise old owl from a fire-killed stub  
Looked down on a wee field-mouse,  
And with the subtle guile of Beelzebub,  
Shrewd as Diogenes in his tub  
(For the owl was hungry — there was the rub)  
Sought to lure him from his house.

"Little Mouse," quoth he, and looked at the sky,  
"It will rain tomorrow I know;  
Better you seek a home quite high — —  
On that distant mound which I descry  
Perhaps is a burrow, warm and dry;  
Come, let us thither go."

From his door the mousie, sleek and sly,  
Surveyed the bright and cloudless sky,  
Glanced back at the owl with a cynical eye,  
Then — in negation — shook his head;  
"I do not believe it will rain," he said.

With a solemn hoot of sad disgust  
The owl shook his head and sighed,  
Then warningly, "Why know you must,  
'Tis writ on Tablets crumbling to dust,  
On age-old parchment — an owl to trust  
In matters of weather," he cried.

Replied the mouse, "I feel no need  
To believe such ancient scroll and screed,  
Written by OWLS — for MICE to READ;  
That you know it will rain tomorrow I doubt;  
For HOW IN THE HELL did you find out?"

\* \* \* \*

An aged rustic with baited breath,  
Bespake us an ancient shibboleth  
Of snares and pitfalls, woe and death;  
Then OWL-LIKE with expectantly trembling  
claws

Besought approval of his cause.  
Ignored, unanswered, he left the house;  
Could we be more gullible than a mouse?

— M. W. C. —

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